

**NSC BRIEFING
EAST GERMANY**

27 June 1955

- I. The East German people appear convinced that their regime is almost totally bankrupt politically and economically, according to the OST-BURO of the SPD.
 - A. The public mood has shifted from a repressed desire for violent measures to a readiness to indulge in all forms of passive resistance, localized strikes and refusal to implement government decrees.
 - B. East Germans are believed to be pinning their hopes for improved internal conditions, and even the possible reunification of Germany, on the results of the Summit meeting and the Adenauer visit to Moscow.
 1. A similar wave of hope was reported before the Berlin Conference in the spring of 1954.
- II. Passive resistance, accompanied by a "wait-and-see" attitude, probably will continue at least until after the Summit Conference and Adenauer visit to Moscow.
- III. The public mood, may, however, become more violent if the regime should attempt to enforce conscription, increased oppressive measures, greater restrictions on freedom of movement, or if the poor food and consumer goods situation grows worse.
 - A. The East German regime continues to demonstrate

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nervousness at the popular restiveness, however, and would impose such unpopular measures only with the greatest reluctance.

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NO CHANGE IN CLASS. ☐

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